

Dacorum Brough Council

Pollution Prevention and Control Act 1999

Environmental Permitting Regulations 2016



Notice Reference: SR 050602

Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016 (as amended), Regulation 20

Variation Notice

To: Bovingdon Brickworks Limited

Of: Westhaven House
Arleston Way
Shirley
Solihull
West Midlands
B90 4LH

Dacorum Borough Council (*"the Regulator"*), in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Regulation 20 and of the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016 (as amended) (*"the 2016 Regulations"*), hereby gives you notice that:

The Regulator has decided to vary the conditions of permit reference **SR 050602** in relation to the Part A2 Ceramics activity installation undertaken at the following installation:

Bovingdon Brickworks
Leyhill Road
Bovingdon
Hertfordshire
HP3 0NW

The Regulator hereby gives you notice as follows:-

- The operating conditions have been varied to include specific 'mothballing' conditions following the Operators request to operationally mothball the activity.
- The variation of the conditions of the permit are specified in Schedule 1 to this notice.
- The mothballing date shall be taken to be 1st June 2020.

Environmental and Community Protection
Environmental Health
Dacorum Borough Council
The Forum, Marlowes
Hemel Hempstead
Hertfordshire
HP1 1DN

Dated: 15th May 2020

David Carr
Authorised to sign for:
Dacorum Borough Council

Guidance for Operators receiving a Transfer & Variation Notice

(This guidance does not form part of the Variation Notice, but it is for the guidance of those served with the notice.) Further guidance can be found in the PPC General Guidance Manual at <http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/quality/pollution/ppc/localauth/pubs/guidance/manuals.htm>.

Dealing with this Notice

This notice varies the terms of the permit specified in the Notice by amending or deleting certain existing conditions and/or adding new conditions. The Schedules attached to the notice explain which conditions have been amended, added or deleted and the dates on which these have effect.

The Council may have included a 'consolidated permit', which takes into account these and previous variations. Where a consolidated permit is not included this variation notice must be read in conjunction with your permit document.

Offences

Failure to comply with a Variation Notice is an offence under regulation 38(2) of the 2016 Regulations. A person guilty of an offence under this regulation could be liable to (i) a fine of up to £50,000 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or both; or (ii) to an unlimited fine or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 5 years or both, depending on whether the matter is dealt with in the Magistrates or Crown Court.

Appeals

Under regulation 31 and Schedule 6 of the 2016 Regulations operators have the right of appeal against the conditions attached to their permit by a variation notice. The right to appeal does not apply in circumstances where the notice implements a direction of the Secretary of State/Welsh Ministers given under regulations 61 or 62 or a direction when determining an appeal.

Appeals against a Variation Notice do not have the effect of suspending the operation of the Notice. Appeals do not have the effect of suspending permit conditions, or any of the mentioned notices.

Notice of appeal against a Variation Notice must be given within two months of the date of the variation notification, which is the subject matter or the appeal. The Secretary of State/Welsh Ministers may in a particular case allow notice of appeal to be given after the expiry of this period, but would only do so in the most compelling circumstances.

How to appeal

There are no forms or charges for appealing. However, for an appeal to be valid, appellants (the person/operator making the appeal) are legally required to provide the Secretary of State or Welsh Minister with the following (see paragraphs 2(1) and (2) of Schedule 6 of the 2016 Regulations):

- written notice of the appeal
- a statement of the grounds of appeal;
- a copy of any relevant application;
- a copy of any relevant environmental permit;
- a copy of any relevant correspondence between the appellant and the regulator;
- a copy of any decision or notice which is the subject matter of the appeal; and
- a statement indicating whether the appellant wishes the appeal to be in the form of a hearing or dealt with by way of written representations.

Appellants should state whether any of the information enclosed with the appeal has been the subject of a successful application for confidentiality under regulation 48 of the 2010 Regulations, and provide relevant details – see below. Unless such information is provided all documents submitted will be open to inspection.

Where to send your appeal documents

Appeals should be despatched on the day they are dated, and addressed to:

The Planning Inspectorate
Environment Team, Major and Specialist Casework
Room 4/04 Kite Wing
Temple Quay House
2 The Square
Temple Quay
Bristol BS1 6PN

If an appeal is made, the main parties will be kept informed about the next steps, and will also normally be provided with additional copies of each other's representations.

To withdraw an appeal – which may be done at any time - the appellant must notify the Planning Inspectorate in writing and copy the notification to the local authority who must in turn notify anyone with an interest in the appeal.

Costs

The operator and local authority will normally be expected to pay their own expenses during an appeal. Where a hearing or inquiry is held as part of the appeal process, by virtue of paragraph 5(6) of Schedule 6, either the appellant or the authority can apply for costs. Applications for costs are normally heard towards the end of the proceedings and will only be allowed if the party claiming them can show that the other side behaved unreasonably and put them to unnecessary expense. There is no provision for costs to be awarded where appeals are dealt with by written representatives.

Confidentiality

An operator may request certain information to remain confidential, ie not be placed on the public register. The operator must request the exclusion from the public register of confidential information at the time of supply of the information requested by this notice or any other notice. The operator should provide clear justification for each item wishing to be kept from the register. The onus is on the operator to provide a clear justification for each item to be kept from the register. It will not simply be sufficient to say that the process is a trade secret.

The test of whether information is confidential for the purposes of being withheld from the public register is complex and is explained, together with the procedures, in chapter 8 of the PPC General Guidance Manual.

National security

Information may be excluded from the public register on the grounds of National Security. If it is considered that the inclusion of information on a public register is contrary to the interests of national security, the operator may apply to the Secretary of State/Welsh Ministers, specifying the information and indicating the apparent nature of risk to national security. The operator must inform the local authority of such an application, who will not include the information on the public register until the Secretary of State/Welsh Ministers has decided the matter.

Schedule 1

Variation to the conditions of the permit, which shall take effect 1st June 2020

9. Mothballing:

- 9.1 Where mothballing has been applied, the following permit conditions are dis-applied:
- a) Condition 1.1: brickmaking operations.
 - b) Condition 2.2: point source emissions to air.
 - c) Condition 3.1: emissions from kilns.
- All other permit conditions remain in force.
- 9.2 The site closure plan required by condition 4.0 shall be forwarded to the Regulator for approval within 3-months of the mothballing date, and shall then be referred to as the 'Permit Surrender Plan'. Where the Regulator does not approve the permit surrender plan, a timetable for re-submission may be supplied to the Operator in writing.
- 9.3 The Permit Surrender Plan shall, and to the satisfaction of the regulator:
- a) Detail potential sources of pollution risk, and the plan for the removal of these sources of pollution on a risk assessed basis, and with milestone dates for the removal of pollution sources that need to be removed.
 - b) Detail how the installation is to be decommissioned so as to avoid any pollution risk in returning the installation to a satisfactory condition.
 - c) Include investigations, such as drainage surveys, and soil and/or groundwater contamination investigations to identify if the condition of the land has deteriorated, or whether the land at the site is in a "satisfactory state".
- 9.4 Mothballing shall be reviewed annually. Where mothballing has been applied, the Operator shall supply the following information by the 28th February each year:
- a) An updated site closure plan.
 - b) Works undertaken to establish if contamination of the soil or groundwater has occurred.
 - c) Works undertaken to remove pollution sources.
 - d) Works undertaken to return land to a satisfactory state.
- 9.5 Where mothballing has been applied, you must inform the Council immediately and in writing at least 14-days prior to the re-commencement of brickmaking activities.